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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**DELAWARE COURTS AND JUDICIAL BRANCH AGENCIES
WILL BE CLOSED ON JULY 13, 2007**

Pursuant to Administrative Directive Number 161 (see attached) Chief Justice Myron T. Steele will close the Courts and related Judicial Branch agencies in Delaware on Friday, July 13, 2007. The Chief Justice noted in his Administrative Directive Number 161 that courts were unable to observe the official day of mourning on January 2, 2007 for President Gerald R. Ford because of late notice by the Executive Branch and previously scheduled court calendars. The Judicial Branch has chosen to honor the memory of President Ford on the day closest to his birthday of July 14th. The date of July 13th was selected when Administrative Directive No. 161 was issued in February 2007 to ensure sufficient notice was provided to minimize disruption to previous scheduled court appearances by the public.

The Courts and judicial branch agencies statewide that will be closed on July 13th include the Supreme Court of Delaware; the Court of Chancery; the Superior Court; the Court of Common Pleas; the Family Court; the Justice of the Peace Courts excluding the 24 hour courts; the Administrative Office of the Courts including the Judicial Information Center and the Office of State Court Collection Enforcement; the Office of Public Guardian; New Castle County Law Library; the Kent County Law Library; the Sussex County Law Library; the Educational Surrogate Parent Program; the Office of Child Advocate; the Child Placement Review Board; the Violent Crimes Compensation Board; the Child Death, Near Death, Still Birth Commission; and the Delaware Nursing Home Residents Quality Assurance. **The following Justice of the Peace Court 24 hour courts will remain open JP Court 3 in Georgetown; JP Court 7 in Dover; JP Court 20 in the City of Wilmington; and JP Court 11 in New Castle. The videophone court at Court 2 will be closed for the holiday and all video requests will be handled by the 24 hour Court locations. Specific questions about case schedules should be directed to the appropriate court(s).**

**PLEASE DIRECT ALL QUESTIONS TO
JAMES WRIGHT, DEPUTY STATE COURT ADMINISTRATOR
AT 302-255-0092**